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Vintage photograph of H. Rider Haggard, at Ditchingham House, Norfolk 1890s DUNCAN1890



Hardly anyone will live in the fens - 1901

H. Rider Haggard writes: "Some of the old Cambridgeshire families such as Allix, Pell, Jenyns and Frost still remain upon their ancestral acres, but the majority of them have melted away."

"Round Newmarket, their place has been filled by an influx of millionaire owners from all parts of the globe who are interested in sport but take no real interest in the land or its occupants."

"The county has but few resident gentlemen, except the clergy."

"In the fens, hardly anyone will live except those concerned in the management of the land, since here are to be found neither sport, scenery or society."

King's boat fire - 1909

A petrol-driven motor boat owned by Mr John Scudamore, boat-builder of Mill Lane, and occupied by a party of five undergraduates caught fire when at the back of King's College and was burnt down to the water's edge. They had experienced difficulties with the 3½ horse-power engine and Mr Scudamore went to their assistance. He was examining it when it burst into flame.

The cause is a mystery: nobody was smoking, the engine-bearings were not overheated and there was no escape of petrol.



Ortona bus

Nancy steam tug



Bus covers - 1915

The attention of the Cambridge watch committee has been called to the fact that the Ortona Motor Bus Company has not provided covers for the seats of the omnibuses and it was agreed that the town clerk write to the company requesting them to provide waterproof aprons for the seats on top of the buses.

Boat at the Backs



Mike Petty's Collection